



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/358,520	07/22/1999	FUJIO NOGUCHI	SONY-P9841	1674

22850 7590 04/25/2003

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

WU, DOROTHY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2697

DATE MAILED: 04/25/2003

110

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

10

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/358,520

Applicant(s)

NOGUCHI ET AL.

Examiner

Dorothy Wu

Art Unit

2697

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 July 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 July 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al, U.S. Patent 6,199,014, in view of Fukushima et al, U.S. Patent 4,807,157.

Regarding claim 1, Walker et al teaches a method to build photography database 211, wherein the method comprises the steps of capturing an image of a desired object, using a location information acquiring means (mobile GPS unit) for acquiring current location information, and recording all the captured image and current location information in the photography database 211, thereby relating said captured image to said current location information when recording said captured image and said current location information to a storage medium (col. 6, line 65-col. 7, line 8, and Fig. 7). The image pickup means and recording means are inherent in the method. Walker et al teaches that the captured image is outputted to the storage medium (Fig. 7). Walker et al also teaches that removable CD-ROMs can be used for storing the digital map, which constitute image data and their respective locations (col. 1, lines 25-32, and col. 2, lines 1-2). Walker et al fails to specifically disclose a solid-state storage medium. Fukushima et al teaches that in a navigation system, directional information may be stored on an IC card, which reads on the solid-state storage medium (col. 2, lines 57-60).

Art Unit: 2697

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the removable CD-ROM taught by Walker et al with a removable solid-state storage medium taught by Fukushima et al to make a navigation system that relies on a solid-state storage medium. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to make such a modification to offer greater flexibility in the type of storage mediums used in navigational systems.

Regarding claim 2, Fukushima et al teaches the use of an IC card to store directional information (col. 2, lines 57-60).

Regarding claim 4, Walker et al teaches a navigation apparatus for providing guidance regarding a route to a destination (col. 1, lines 5-6) wherein information about the route stored previously in a storage medium (RAM 203) is retrieved therefrom, and wherein image data recorded previously in a storage medium (photography database 212) in relation to the route information are retrieved therefrom (col. 7, lines 9-37, Figs. 8 and 9). Walker et al also teaches that image data are displayed in conjunction with route information (Fig. 4, and col. 6, lines 20-34). Fukushima et al teaches that the navigation data may be stored on a removable storage medium, namely, an IC card (col. 2, lines 57-60).

Regarding claim 5, Walker et al teaches the storage of still images recorded by an image pickup apparatus on a storage medium (col. 6, line 65-col. 7, line 8, and Fig. 7). Fukushima et al teaches a removable IC card with stored directional information (col. 2, lines 57-60).

Regarding claim 6, Walker teaches a storage medium (matching results database 213) providing guidance regarding a route to a destination so as to store information about said route, wherein image data related to said route are recorded in correspondence with locations along said

Art Unit: 2697

route (col. 7, lines 47-54, 9-37). Walker et al also teaches a CD-ROM interfaced with a GPS receiver, which reads on a storage medium inserted into a navigation apparatus, that provides guidance regarding a route to a destination (col. 1, lines 9-11, and col. 2, lines 1-4). Fukushima et al teaches the use of a removable IC card to store directional information (col. 2, lines 57-60).

2. Claims 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al, U.S. Patent 6,199,014, in view of Fukushima et al, U.S. Patent 4,807,157, and further in view of Bradshaw et al, U.S. Patent 5,528,518.

Regarding claim 3, Walker et al in view of Fukushima et al teach the apparatus according to the limitations of claim 1. See above. Walker et al teaches that information concerning a particular route, namely directional vectors and image data, may be stored in a database (col. 7, lines 47-54). Walker et al does not teach that current location information is recorded at least in relation to information about a route to a destination indicated on a map in a display screen. Bradshaw et al teaches that current location and image data information is recorded at least in relation to information indicated on a map in a display screen (col. 14, lines 32-27, 44-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the concept of having a predetermined route stored in memory taught by Walker et al with the practice of capturing locations and image data by noting their location on map in a display to make an apparatus in which the user may record information concerning a route by displaying the route on the display screen and inputting image data corresponding to different locations on the route. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to make such a

Art Unit: 2697

modification to stored in memory a customized route he frequently uses, thus avoiding the tedious task of regenerated the same route whenever he needs it.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lappenbusch et al, U.S. Patent 5,982,298, teach a navigation system wherein both the map showing the desired route to be traveled and images corresponding to the current location are displayed on the same screen.

Ong, U.S. Patent 6,285,317, teaches a wireless navigation system in which the navigator may obtain current local scene information through a local scene information provider.

Asada et al, U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0032435, teaches a portable navigation system.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dorothy Wu whose telephone number is 703-305-8412. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on 703-305-4863.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, DC 20231

Art Unit: 2697

Or faxed to:

703-872-9314

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding
should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone
number is 703-306-0377.

Donothy Wu

DW

April 18, 2003

KA Williams

Kimberly A. Williams
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2600